[*Note*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the member.**]

II. ADJOURNMENT MOTION *re* OUSTING OF BEEDI WORKERS.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : The hon. Member Sri V. K. Kothandaraman has given notice of an adjournment motion which states as follows :—

The proceedings of the House be adjourned for discussing the following matter of urgent public importance, viz :—

" the failure of the Government to enforce the provisions of the Madras Beedi Industrial Premises Act and the action of Messrs. V. Abdul Jabbar and Sons., Beedi Manufacturers, Vellore, North Arcot District, in driving out 1,000 beedi workers and conducting business under contract system thus paying less than the minimum wage and giving employment only to 500 workers and the consequent unrest among the workers ".

The hon. Member has given notice of a short notice question on the same matter and I hope the Hon. Minister will answer the question. So, I do not give my consent to raise this matter on the floor of the House.

III.—CALLING ATTENTION TO THE REPERCUSSIONS OF THE SUGAR (REGULATION OF PRODUCTION) ORDINANCE, 1961.

SRI A. SENAPATHI GOUNDER : கனம் உதவி சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, சர்க்கரை உற்பத்தியை கட்டுப்படுத்தும் அவசரச் சட்டம் பிறப்பிக்கப்பட்டதன் காரணமாக இம்மாநிலத்தில் கரும்புப் பயிரிடுவோர்களுக்கும் கூட்டுறவு சர்க்கரை ஆலைகளுக்கும் ஏற்பட்ட பின் விளைவுகளைக் குறித்து அவசரப் பொது முக்கியத்துவம் வாய்ந்த விஷயத்தைக் கனம் உள்துறை அமைச்சர் அவர்களுடைய கவனத்திற்குக் கொண்டுவருகின்றேன்.

* THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The production of sugar in India was found to be far in excess of the local requirements. As a result there was a surplus. A portion of this surplus was exported. There is already a surplus in the International market with the result it has not been possible for this country to export the surplus sugar to other countries.

The Government of India have therefore promulgated the Sugar (Regulation of Production) Ordinance on the 29th September, 1961. The Government of India have also issued rules on 30th October, 1961 under this ordinance. This ordinance and the rules framed thereunder empower the Government of India to regulate production for such sugar factory by fixing quotas beyond which additional excise duty, which is equal to the rate of the excise duty itself may be levied. The factories have been divided into old established factories, factories which have effected an expansion programme recently and new factories. In the case of old factories the Government of India propose to place the limit mentioned above at a level 10 per cent below the production in

1959–60 or 1960–61, whichever is higher. The level to be prescribed in the case of other factories has to be worked out according to the formulae included in the rules issued by the Government of India.

The State Government have received several representations both from Sugar Factories and from sugarcane cultivators against this ordinance. The sugar factories have represented that they have entered into heavy commitments for taking sugarcane from registered cultivators in accordance with the previous policy of the Government of India for increasing sugar production. They fear legal complications in refuting their obligations and also apprehend difficulties in pursuading the cultivators in future to cultivate sugarcane in conformity with the planned requirements of the factories. In two cases it has been represented by Co-operative Sugar Factories that they have been established very recently and that they have heavy commitments of loans and advances in addition to the heavy commitments with cultivators for taking sugarcane as mentioned already. These factories have expressed the fear of very serious consequences as a result of this ordinance.

The sugarcane growers on the other hand have represented that they have been cultivating sugarcane in accordance with the production programmes of sugar factories and the policy of Government for increasing sugar production. They state that the sugarcane for the regular as well as the special season is already on ground and that they have not had any opportunity to regulate the planting in accordance with the new policy of the Government of India. They feel that the full impact of this policy will be felt by the cultivators only, who will be the ultimate sufferers. They also claim that they have cultivated sugarcane on the registration system under which sugar factories have contracted to purchase a certain amount of sugarcane from them.

The system of registration of sugarcane growers is peculiar to the Southern States. Under this system regular agreements are entered into between the factories and the growers generally in advance of the planting season so that the production of sugarcane in the sugar factory areas is closely related to the demand of the mills. This is a very good arrangement between both the parties for producing sugar on a systematic and planned basis and it has been working very well. Such a system can only function if nothing is done to upset, without adequate notice, the production schedules.

It has not yet been possible to work out the complete detailed implications of the ordinance issued by the Government of India. However, an estimate of the implications has been made in cunsultation with South India Sugar Mills Association and is as follows :—

There are eight sugar factories in the State at present. During the year 1960–61 these factories crushed 13,88,347 tonnes of sugarcane and produced 1,24,745 tonnes of sugar. For the

8th December 1961] [Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam]

year 1961–62 these factories have programmed to crush 15,41,900 tonnes of sugarcane and to produce 1,43,431 tonnes of sugar. The factories are said to be committed to this production programme on account of their agreements with the cultivators. Under the ordinance the level of production without additional excise duty is likely to be fixed at 1,21,151 tonnes for sugar factories in the whole State. This will mean a reduction of 22,970 tonnes of sugar from the programme of production. In effect the programme of production in the sugar factories in the State will have to be reduced by as much as 16 per cent. This means that we will be faced with the problem of utilising approximately 2.23 lakhs tonnes of sugarcane.

The position may not have been quite so serious had it been possible to convert the sugarcane into jaggery and to find a market for this jaggery. Unfortunately there is a very serious slump in the jaggery market and jaggery prices have reached a very low level, and so there is no doubt that converting this sugarcane into jaggery will further aggravate a very serious situation which exists in the jaggery market. Even apart from this fact, jaggery production has gone into disuse in the sugar factory areas wherever it existed. In other sugar factory areas where the increase in production of sugarcane has been taking place according to the production programmes of the factories, there has not been much development of jaggery production.

In view of these considerations the State Government has taken up the matter at the highest level with the Government of India. Sir, I may add this also. I think that this provision of restricting of crushing of sugarcane in the factories will not be enforced during the current season.

IV.—GOVERNMENT BILLS.

(i) THE MADRAS GIFT GOODS (UNLAWFUL POSSESSION) BILL, 1961

(L. A. BILL No. 52 OF 1961.)

DEPUTY SPEAKER : We shall continue the discussion on this Bill.

*** Sri V. K. RAMASWAMY MUDALIYAR :** கனம் உதவி சபா நாயகர் அவர்களே, பொதுவாக இந்த மசோதாவை முழு மனதுடன் வரவேற்கின்றேன். அப்படி வரவேற்கும்போது இதில் வீண் தொந்தரவு (harassment) இருக்கக்கூடாது என்பது என்னுடைய அபிப்பிராயம். இப்போது அடல்ட்ரேஷன் அதிகமாகத்தான் இருக்கிறது. கோவாப்ரேடிவ் சொஸைடி மூலம் உரம் விநியோகம் செய்தபோதிலும் பக்கத்தில் அடுத்த கடையில், அடுத்த தெருவில் நூற்றுக்கணக்கான உர மூட்டைகள் எல்லாம் கள்ள மார்க்கெட்டில் நிறையக் கிடைக்கின்றன. பால் பௌடர் சம்பந்தமாகக்கூட இப்போது சமீபத்தில் என்னுடைய தொகுதியில் ஒருவர் பால் பவுடர் விநியோகத்திற்காகக் காண்டிராக்ட் எடுத்தார். திடீரென்று போலீஸ்காரர்கள் வந்து "இவை உமக்கு

9-30 a.m.